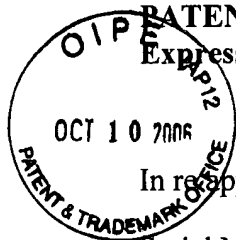


OCT 11 2006



PATENT

Express Mail Label No. EV779640466US

ATTORNEY DOCKET: Y0242-00205

AF
JFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **Bahram G. Kermani**

Examiner: **Rachna Singh**

Serial No.: **09/487,522**

Group Art Unit: **2176**

Filed: **January 19, 2000**

Confirmation No.: **3260**

For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR
ABSTRACTING ELECTRONIC
DOCUMENTS**

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.10, I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number EV779640466US to the following: Mail Stop Appeal Brief- Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DATE: 10/10/06

Joseph A. Powers, Registration No. 47,006

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

SUBSTITUTE APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. 41.37

Pursuant to 37 CFR 41.37, Applicant hereby submits this Substitute Appeal Brief. The Substitute Appeal Brief is being timely submitted in response to the Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief (37 C.F.R. 41.37) issued September 21, 2006, under 37 CFR 41.37. The Substitute Appeal Brief is being submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph A. Powers, Registration No. 47,006

Duane Morris LLP
30 South 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-4196
215-979-1842
FAX: 215-979-1020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
I. Real Party in Interest	1
II. Related Appeals and Interferences	1
III. Status of Claims.....	1
IV. Status of Amendments.....	1
V. Summary of Claimed Subject Matter	1
VI. Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal	4
VII. Argument	5
A. Obviousness Rejection of Claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28-32 and 37-42	5
1. Claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28-32 and 40-42.....	5
2. Claims 37-38, 39 and 41	8
3. Claims 40 and 42	9
CLAIMS APPENDIX	A-1
EVIDENCE APPENDIX	B-1
RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX.....	C-1

I. Real Party in Interest

The real party in interest is Lucent Technologies, Inc., present owner of the application and the invention described therein.

II. Related Appeals and Interferences

There are no related appeals or interferences.

III. Status of Claims

Although the Final Official Action dated May 12, 2005 states that claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18, 19, 22-23, 25-26 and 28-38 are pending and rejected, it is noted that claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18, 19, 22-23, 25-26, 28-32 and 37-42 are pending and are understood to be rejected.

IV. Status of Amendments

There are no pending amendments or amendments submitted herewith.

V. Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

Applicant's invention relates to a method of and system for abstracting electronic documents, for example, electronic mail, news releases, text books, encyclopedias, articles, studies, and novels, to name a few. An exemplary system is shown in FIG. 1, and an exemplary method is illustrated by FIGS. 2 and 4 and described in the specification at, for example, page 5, second full paragraph through page 6, line 3 and page 7, line 17 through page 9, line 19. FIG. 2 is a flow chart of an exemplary method of abstracting an electronic document and FIG. 4 is a flow chart of an exemplary method of particularized abstraction of an electronic document.

Independent Claim 1 is directed to a method of abstracting an electronic document. The method includes prompting a user to select an abstracted version of the electronic document 30b, 44b, 55b to be created from a plurality of abstracted versions available 30d, 44d, 55d (step 200, FIG. 2). The method further provides, in response to a selection by the user of the abstracted version to be created (step 210, FIG. 2), creating the selected abstracted version of the electronic document by executing a set of instructions 30cb, 44cb, 55cb corresponding to the electronic document (step 220, FIG. 2), wherein the instructions are, before the abstracted version is selected by the user, customized to the electronic document (page 7, line 17 to page 8, line 19).

The customization comprises a plurality of weights pre-assigned to respective portions of the electronic document to enable creation of said plurality of abstracted versions. *Id.* The method also provides the step of outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format (step 230, FIG.2).

Independent Claim 9 is directed to a computer-readable medium (e.g., 30, 44, 55, 60, 70) encoded with a computer program code for directing a processor to abstract an electronic document (page 10, lines 1-12). The computer readable medium comprises a first code segment for prompting a user to select an abstracted version of the electronic document 30b, 44b, 55b to be created from a plurality of abstracted versions available 30d, 44d, 55d; a second code segment for creating, responsive to a selection by the user of the abstracted version to be created, the selected abstracted version of the electronic document by executing a set of instructions 30cb, 44cb, 55cb corresponding to the electronic document, wherein the instructions are, before said abstraction version is selected by the user, customized to the electronic document (page 7, line 17 to page 8, line 19). The customization comprises a plurality of weights pre-assigned to respective portions of the electronic document to enable creation of said plurality of abstracted versions. *Id.* The medium also comprises a third code segment for outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format.

Independent Claim 16 is directed to a computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave encoded with computer program code for directing a processor to abstract an electronic document (page 10, lines 1-12). The computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprises three code segments described in the summary of the subject matter of Independent Claim 9.

Independent Claim 23 is directed to a system for abstracting an electronic document. The system comprises: (a) means for prompting a user to select an abstracted version of the electronic document; (b) means for creating, responsive to a selection by the user of the abstracted version to be created, the selected abstracted version of the electronic document by executing a set of instructions corresponding to the electronic document, wherein the instructions are, before said abstracted version is selected by the user, customized to the electronic document, the customization comprising a plurality of weights pre-assigned to respective portions of the

electronic document to enable creation of said plurality of abstracted versions; and (c) means for outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format.

The structure corresponding to the prompting means described in the specification is, for example, a computer 20, 40 or other machine programmed to execute a set of instructions which prompts the user to select an abstracted version of the electronic document (FIG. 1; FIG. 2; FIG. 4; page 5, lines 3-7; page 8, lines 20-23).

The structure corresponding to the creating means is also a computer 20, 40 or other machine programmed to execute a set of instructions for abstracting the electronic document as shown at, for example, FIG. 2, Step 220, FIG. 4, steps 226, 227, 228, 228a, and the accompanying description at page 7, lines 17 to page 9, line 9.

The structure corresponding to the outputting means may be, for example, a computer 20, 40 programmed to provide the abstracted version to a monitor 21, printer 22, floppy diskette 70, hard drive 30, programmable-ROM, RAM, CD-RW drive, or file server. See, e.g., FIG.1; FIG. 2, step 230; FIG. 4, step 230b and the description on page 10, lines 23-25.

Independent Claim 37, like Independent Claim 1, is directed to a method of abstracting an electronic document, but recites that the instructions 30cb, 44cb, 55cb are, before said abstracted version is selected by said user, designed specifically for the content of the electronic document. The set of instructions includes an assignment of individual weights from a plurality of weights to respective portions of the electronic document, wherein each abstracted version from the plurality of versions of the electronic document is associated with a respective subset of individual weights from the plurality of assigned weights (see FIG. 4; page 7, line 17 to page 8, line 19). The executing of the instructions includes comparing a subset of individual weights associated with the selected abstracted version to the weights assigned to the respective portions of the electronic document to remove portions of said electronic document (FIG. 4, steps 226, 227, 228, 228a; page 8, line 20 to page 9, line 9).

Independent Claim 38, like Independent Claim 23, is directed to a system for abstracting an electronic document, but recites that the instructions 30cb, 44cb, 55cb are, before said abstracted version is selected by said user, designed specifically for the content of the electronic

document. The set of instructions includes an assignment of individual weights from a plurality of weights to respective portions of the electronic document, wherein each abstracted version from the plurality of versions of the electronic document is associated with a respective subset of individual weights from the plurality of assigned weights (see FIG. 4; page 7, line 17 to page 8, line 19). The executing step of the instructions includes comparing a subset of individual weights associated with the selected abstracted version to the weights assigned to the respective portions of the electronic document to remove portions of said electronic document (FIG. 4, steps 226, 227, 228, 228a; page 8 line 20 to page 9, line 9).

The structure corresponding to the prompting means described in the specification is, for example, a computer 20, 40 or other machine programmed to execute a set of instructions which prompts the user to select an abstracted version of the electronic document (FIG.1, FIG. 2, FIG. 4; page 5, lines 3-7; page 8, lines 20-23).

The structure corresponding to the creating means also may be, for example, a computer 20, 40 or other machine programmed to execute a set of instructions for abstracting the electronic document as shown at, for example, FIG. 2, step 220, FIG. 4, steps 221-224, and the accompanying description at page 7, line 17 to page 9, line 9.

The structure corresponding to the outputting means may be, for example, a computer 20, 40 programmed to provide the abstracted version to a monitor 21, printer 22, floppy diskette 70, hard drive 30, programmable-ROM, RAM, CD-RW drive, or file server. See, e.g., FIG.1; FIG. 2, step 230; FIG. 4, step 230b and the description on page 10, lines 23-25.

VI. Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

Whether claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18, 19, 22-23, 25,-26, 28-32 and 37-42 are properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious from U.S. Patent No. 6,289,304 to Grefenstette (hereinafter, "Grefenstette") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,789,230 to Katariya et al. (hereinafter, "Katariya").

VII. Argument

A. Obviousness Rejection of Claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28-32 and 37-42

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28-32 and 37-42 have been rejected as being obvious from Grefenstette in view of Katariya. A claim is obvious under § 103 only if the prior art references “teach or suggest all of the claim limitations.” MPEP 2142 (citing *I re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488 (Fed. Cir. 1991)). Applicant submits that the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness because the combination of Grefenstette and Katariya fails to teach or suggest each feature of the claims, as argued below.

With respect to the sole grounds for rejection, i.e., the obviousness rejection of claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18, 19, 22-23, 25-26, 28-32 and 37-42, claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18, 19, 22-23, 25-26, 28-32 and 37-42 are presented as a first group. The claims of this group, however, do not stand or fall together and are believed to be separately patentable as argued below.

1. Claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28-32 and 40-42

Using claim 1 as representative of independent claims 1, 9, 11 and 23, claim 1 is directed to a method of abstracting electronic documents where the user can select from a plurality of different abstracted versions of an electronic document that can be created, i.e., a number of abstracted versions can be created from a single electronic document. Once the user has selected an abstracted version to be created, a set of instructions corresponding to the electronic document is executed to create the version selected by the user. Importantly, the instructions are customized to the electronic document before the user makes the selection of the abstracted version to be created. In the claimed method, the customization includes a plurality of weights that are pre-assigned to respective portions of the electronic document to enable creation of the plurality of versions of the electronic document.

Put another way, a set of instructions exists that has been customized to the electronic document, e.g., weights have been pre-assigned to respective portions of the document, before the user is prompted to select a version of the document to be created. Assigning different weights to respective portions of the electronic document allows for creation of multiple versions of the electronic document. Executing the instructions in a first manner, e.g., maintaining only

sections having weights that match a first subset of weights, produces a first version of the electronic document. Executing the instructions in a second manner, e.g., maintaining only sections having weights that match a second subset of weights, produces a second version of the electronic document, and so on. The user is allowed to pick from several different versions of the electronic document, which can be created by executing the instructions in a manner that corresponds to the abstracted version selected by the user.

Grefenstette teaches instructions that are not “customized” in anyway to a specific electronic document. Each summarization rule taught by the Grefenstette is clearly generic in nature, i.e., the rules are grammatical rules generally applicable to any electronic document, such as maintaining only proper names, or maintaining only subjects and object nouns. (Column 9, Lines 43-59). By “customized” in the Applicant’s claims, it is meant that the rules are made specifically for the electronic document, i.e., they are not generally or universally applicable to all documents. The Examiner’s repeated assertion that anytime a rule is used on a document, it becomes “customized” to the electronic document is not consistent with Applicant’s use of “customized” nor with its use in the context of the claims, i.e., that the customization occurs before the abstracted version is selected by the user. Nor is the Examiner’s use of customized consistent with the ordinary meaning of the term. The Examiner refers to the application of a rule to a document as being a unique application of that rule for that document. However, since the rule is always the same, no matter to what document it is applied, it cannot be said that the rule itself is customized.

Though Applicant disagrees with the Examiner as to whether Grefenstette’s instructions are “customized” to the electronic document, the Examiner has conceded that the Grefenstette rules are clearly not “customized to” the electronic document “before said abstracted version is selected by the user.” Therefore, the Examiner relies on Katariya for this missing feature.

Katariya discloses a method and system for generating a summary of a document. A first algorithm calculates a weight for each of the sentences in the document, and a second algorithm generates a summary of the electronic document. Specifically, Katariya assigns a weight to a sentence based on the term frequency of a component term. (See Katariya, col. 5, line 20-25). In FIG. 2 of Katariya, the summary algorithm then evaluates each possible set of eligible

sentences and selects the set of sentences whose length is less than the maximum length set for the summary and whose total weight is the greatest. In steps 202-211, each sentence of a document is examined to determine whether the binary length of the sentence is greater than the maximum allowed length (step 209) and whether the weight of the sentence is greater than the maximum sentence weight (step 210). The process loop is carried out until all sentences of a given document have been examined (step 203).

Importantly, the summary algorithm executed by Katariya after the sentences are assigned weights allows for the creation of **only one summary version** of the document because the algorithm operates in the same manner each time, with respect to a given document, to create an abstracted document that does not exceed a pre-defined length and has the greatest weight. The method for abstracting documents disclosed by Katariya, therefore, does not teach or suggest the step of creating the abstracted version of the electronic document selected by the user from a plurality of abstracted versions of the electronic document that could be created. Katariya also does not teach or suggest a set of instructions that are **customized** to the electronic document before the user selects the abstracted version to be created where the customization includes a plurality of weights that are pre-assigned to respective portions of the electronic document to enable creation of the plurality of abstracted versions of the electronic document. In summary, the Katariya user does not and cannot select between different versions of a document to be created (because such version cannot be created), nor does Katariya disclose a process that can use the assigned weights to create different versions, let alone a version selected by the user.

The Examiner's proposed combination does not allow both (1) the selection between multiple versions to be created from the electronic document and (2) that a version specifically selected by the user can be created using a customized set of instructions comprising pre-assigned weights to portions of the electronic document as required by Applicant's independent claims. This is because the Examiner relies on Katariya for teaching a weighting scheme, but Katariya does not teach an abstraction routine that can create more than one version of an electronic document using the assigned weights. Grefenstette cannot fill this void even if Grefenstette permits selection between creation of multiple versions of an electronic document because it does not teach abstraction based on pre-assigned weights.

From the foregoing, the combination of Grefenstette and Katariya does not teach or suggest the prompting and creating steps of amended claim 1. It follows that independent claim 1, and independent claims 9, 16 and 23, which recite features that parallel claim 1, are not obvious from Grefenstette in view of Katrina, and are therefore allowable over the art of record. It is submitted that claims 3-8, 11-15, 18-19, 22, 25-26, 28-32 and 40-42, which depend from the independent claims, are also allowable for at least the reasons set forth above.

2. Claims 37-38, 39 and 41

Independent claims 37 and 38 are directed to a method of and system for abstracting electronic documents, respectively. Claims 37 and 38 recite features similar or identical to independent claim 1 discussed above, and further recite that each abstracted version from the plurality of versions of the electronic document is associated with a respective subset of individual weights from the plurality of weights assigned to the electronic document, and that executing the set of instruction includes the step of comparing a subset of individual weights associated with the selected abstracted version to the weights assigned to the respective portions of the electronic document to remove portions of said electronic document.

Katariya, which teaches a methodology that can create only a single version of an electronic document, neither teaches nor suggests using assigned weights for portions of the electronic document in a manner that enables creation of a plurality of different versions of the electronic document, and creating a particular version of the electronic document selected by the user by comparing a subset of the individual weights associated with the selected version to the weights pre-assigned to the respective portions of electronic document to remove portions of the electronic document. Put another way, Katariya does not teach a methodology where subsets of weights assigned to an electronic document are each associated with different versions of the electronic document that can be created. It follows that combining the teaching of Katariya with those of Grefenstette, which does not teach an abstraction method based on pre-assigned weights, does not provide the method and system claimed in independent claims 37 and 38.

For at least these reasons, it follows that independent claim 37 and independent claim 38, which recites features that parallel claim 37, are not obvious from Grefenstette in view of Katariya, and are therefore independently allowable over the art of record.

Claims 39 and 41 depend from independent claims 1 and 23, respectively, and recite, similar to claims 37 and 38, that the executing step includes identifying a subset of said plurality of weights, said subset associated with the abstracted version to be created, and removing portions of said electronic document based on said subset. As discussed above, the methodology of Katariya allows for creation of only a single version of an electronic document. It follows that Katariya does not identify a subset of weights that are “associated with the abstracted version to be created” where, as defined in the independent claims, the abstracted version to be created is selectable from a plurality of possible versions that could be selected by the user to be created. For at least this reason, it is submitted that claims 39 and 41 are also independently allowable over the art of record.

3. Claims 40 and 42

Claims 40 and 42 depend from claims 1 and 23, respectively, and recite that, prior to the prompting step, the user selects a set of instructions for abstracting the electronic document from a plurality of sets of instructions for abstracting the electronic document. Importantly, (1) each of the sets of instructions is customized, before selection thereof, to the electronic document and (2) each of the sets of instructions is configured to enable creation of a plurality of different abstracted versions of the electronic document. As shown in FIG. 1, multiple customized instruction sets can exist for selection by the user. For example, different persons could each create a different set of instructions for abstracting an electronic document, e.g., a scientific article. Each person can have a different opinion as to how respective portions of the electronic document can be grouped to create multiple different abstracted versions of the electronic document and assign weights accordingly. Each person could make his or her particular instruction set available on his or her respective server, for example. The user can then locate one of these instruction sets. After locating and selecting the instruction set, the user is prompted to select one of the possible versions of the electronic document that can be created using the selected set of instructions and the version is created. Such a system and method are very flexible and allow for any number of instructions sets to be created by any number of individuals, where each individual instruction set itself is capable of creating multiple versions of the electronic document. Certainly, no such system is taught or suggested by the combination of Grefenstette and Katariya. Tellingly, the Examiner’s rejection of claims 40 and 42 appears to

PATENT
Express Mail Label No.

ATTORNEY DOCKET: Y0242-00205

repeat the substance of the rejection of the independent claims but does not address these additional features recited in claims 40 and 42. For at least these reasons, it is submitted that claims 40 and 42 are independently allowable over the art of record.

CLAIMS APPENDIX

1. A method of abstracting an electronic document comprising the following steps:

prompting a user to select an abstracted version of the electronic document to be created from a plurality of abstracted versions available to be created;

responsive to a selection by the user of the abstracted version to be created, creating the selected abstracted version of the electronic document by executing a set of instructions corresponding to the electronic document, wherein the instructions are, before said abstracted version is selected by the user, customized to the electronic document, the customization comprising a plurality of weights pre-assigned to respective portions of the electronic document to enable creation of said plurality of abstracted versions; and

outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format.
2. (canceled)
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the set of instructions further comprise a description of at least one abstracted version capable of being created by executing the set of instructions.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the set of instructions are attached to the electronic document.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical articles.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical adverbs.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical adjectives.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for contracting verb clauses.

9. A computer readable medium encoded with a computer program code for directing a processor to abstract an electronic document, the medium comprising:

a first code segment for prompting a user to select an abstracted version of the electronic document to be created from a plurality of abstracted versions available to be created;

a second code segment for creating, responsive to a selection by the user of the abstracted version to be created, the selected abstracted version of the electronic document by executing a set of instructions corresponding to the electronic document, wherein the instructions are, before said abstracted version is selected by the user, customized to the electronic document, the customization comprising a plurality of weights pre-assigned to respective portions of the electronic document to enable creation of said plurality of abstracted versions; and

a third code segment for outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format.

10. (canceled)

11. The computer readable medium of claim 9, wherein the set of instructions are attached to the electronic document.

12. The computer readable medium of claim 9, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical articles.
13. The computer readable medium of claims 9, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical adverbs.
14. The computer readable medium of claim 9, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical adjectives.
15. The computer readable medium of claim 9, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for contracting verb clauses.
16. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave encoded with computer program code for directing a processor to abstract an electronic document comprising:
 - a first code segment for prompting a user to select an abstracted version of the electronic document to be created from a plurality of abstracted versions available to be created;
 - a second code segment for creating, responsive to a selection by the user of the abstracted version to be created, the selected abstracted version of the electronic document by executing a set of instructions corresponding to the electronic document, wherein the instructions are, before said abstracted version is selected by the user, customized to the electronic document, the customization comprising a plurality of weights pre-assigned to respective portions of the electronic document to enable creation of said plurality of abstracted versions; and
 - a third code segment for outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format.

17. (canceled)

18. The computer data signal of claim 16, wherein the set of instructions are attached to the electronic document.

19. The computer data signal of claim 16, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical articles, removing grammatical adverbs, removing grammatical adjectives, or a combination thereof.

20-21. (canceled)

22. The computer data signal of claim 16, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for contracting verb clauses.

23. A system for abstracting an electronic document comprising:

means for prompting a user to select an abstracted version of the electronic document to be created from a plurality of abstracted versions available to be created;

means for creating, responsive to a selection by the user of the abstracted version to be created, the selected abstracted version of the electronic document by executing a set of instructions corresponding to the electronic document, wherein the instructions are, before said abstracted version is selected by the user, customized to the electronic document, the customization comprising a plurality of weights pre-assigned to respective portions of the electronic document to enable creation of said plurality of abstracted versions; and

means for outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format.

24. (canceled)

25. The system of claim 23, wherein the set of instructions are attached to the electronic document.

26. The system of claim 23, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical articles, removing grammatical adverbs or a combination thereof.

27. (canceled)

28. The system of claim 23, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical adjectives.

29. The system of claim 23, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for contracting verb clauses.

30. The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the set of instructions further comprise a description of at least one abstracted version capable of being created by executing the set of instructions.

31. The computer data signal of claim 16, wherein the set of instructions further comprise a description of at least one abstracted version capable of being created by executing the set of instructions.

32. The system of claim 23, wherein the set of instructions further comprise a description of at least one abstracted version capable of being created by executing the set of instructions.

33-36. (canceled)

37. A method of abstracting an electronic document comprising the following steps:

prompting a user to select an abstracted version of the electronic document to be created from a plurality of abstracted versions available to be created;

responsive to a selection by said user of the abstracted version to be created, creating the selected abstracted version of the electronic document by executing a set of instructions, wherein the instructions are, before said abstracted version is selected by said user, designed specifically for the content of the electronic document, the set of instructions comprising an assignment of individual weights from a plurality of weights to respective portions of the electronic document, wherein each abstracted version from the plurality of versions of the electronic document is associated with a respective subset of individual weights from the plurality of assigned weights, the executing step comprising comparing a subset of individual weights associated with the selected abstracted version to the weights assigned to the respective portions of the electronic document to remove portions of said electronic document; and

outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format.

38. A system for abstracting an electronic document comprising:

means for prompting a user to select an abstracted version of the electronic document to be created from a plurality of abstracted versions available to be created;

means, responsive to a selection by said user of the abstracted version to be created, for creating the abstracted version of the electronic document by executing a set of instructions, wherein the instructions are, before said abstracted version is selected by said user, designed specifically for the content of the electronic document, the set of instructions comprising an

assignment of individual weights from a plurality of weights to respective portions of the electronic document, wherein each abstracted version from the plurality of versions of the electronic document is associated with a respective subset of individual weights from the plurality of assigned weights, the executing step comprising comparing a subset of individual weights associated with the selected abstracted version to the weights assigned to the respective portions of the electronic document to remove portions of said electronic document; and

means for outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format.

39. The method of claim 1, wherein said executing step comprises identifying a subset of said plurality of weights, said subset associated with said selected abstracted version to be created, and removing portions of said electronic document based on said subset.

40. The method of claim 1, wherein prior to said prompting step, said user selects a set of instructions for abstracting said electronic document from a plurality of sets of instructions for abstracting the electronic document, each of said sets of instruction being customized, before selection thereof, to said electronic document, each of said sets of instructions configured to enable creation of a plurality of different abstracted versions of said electronic document.

41. The system of claim 23, wherein said executing step comprises identifying a subset of said plurality of weights, said subset associated with said selected abstracted version to be created, and removing portions of said electronic document based on said subset.

42. The system of claim 23, wherein prior to said prompting step, said user selects a set of instructions for abstracting said electronic document from a plurality of sets of instructions for

PATENT
Express Mail Label No.

ATTORNEY DOCKET: Y0242-00205

abstracting the electronic document, each of said sets of instruction being customized, before selection thereof, to said electronic document, each of said sets of instructions configured to enable creation of a plurality of different abstracted versions of said electronic document.

PATENT

ATTORNEY DOCKET: Y0242-00205

Express Mail Label No. EV779640466US

EVIDENCE APPENDIX

None.

PATENT

ATTORNEY DOCKET: Y0242-00205

Express Mail Label No. EV779640466US

RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None.